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Wise Words from Texas

Jackson Daily News

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JACKSON DAILY NEWS

Mississippi's Greatest Newspaper

JAMES M. WARD, Editor

MISSISSIPPI PUBLISHERS CORP., Publishers

FREDERICK SULLENS, Editor, 1906-1957

PAGE 10

Sec. A—Thursday, April 30, 1959

Wise Words From Texas

The Poplarville incident has sent editorial writers dashing to their typewriters. A wide variety of notions are being expressed, some sensible, some packed full of outright falsehoods.

One of the soundest approaches we've seen appeared in the Dallas Morning News.

The Texas editor's views so closely coincide with those held by the Jackson Daily News and since it is so eloquently and sincerely written we are delighted to endorse the remarks and pass it along to Mississippians.

With a word of praise to the erudite editor, the editorial is presented as follows:

It is reasonable to trace to the Supreme Court of the United States a substantial part of the blame for the revival of lynching in Mississippi. More than any other nine men within the last 50 years, the court at Washington has aggravated and embittered the relations between the whites and blacks of the South.

This is no justification of the crime of kidnaping—and presumably the crime of murder—involving an unapprehended group of outlaws in Pearl River County, Miss. But the lawless procedure of the Supreme Court in creating by court decree a crime not de-

fined by act of Congress, punishable at the will of the court without grand jury indictment, without jury trial, without benefit of clemency, is substantially reflected in the lawlessness of men who, having lost all confidence in the lawful processes of justice, undertake to be their own law, their own court, their own executioner-agents of society.

Until the intervention of the court in the original desegregation case, there was a noteworthy betterment of understanding between whites and blacks in the South, with peaceful and marked improvement in the economic status, social privileges and civic standing of colored people. And in this the colored people themselves deserve full credit for the respect and recognition which they had earned by their own conduct and achievement.

Meanwhile, violence among textile workers in the coal fields and in the textile plants of the Eastern States differs in degree, but not in spirit, from violence in Pearl River County, Miss. If A dynamites B because B won't join a union, it is a mere exuberance of the working class. If A hangs B because B is charged with rape—that is savagery and all Washington goes into gear.